

Lithuanian leader warns Kremlin

MOSCOW (AP) — Lithuanian nuclear Soviet officials Tuesday to restore fuel to a power station connected to a nuclear power plant, saying the plant was damaged in an accident at the nuclear plant, Viasna Radio reported. Lithuania is suffering a blockade of oil and other raw materials imposed by the Kremlin to force the Baltic republic to rescind its demands for independence. Lithuania's Prime Minister outlined the problem in a letter to President Mikhail Gorbachev and Premier Nikolai Kryzhev, Viasna Radio said. "As a result of the Soviet Union's blockade on supplies of petroleum products to Lithuania, reserves of fuel have run out at the Lithuania nuclear power station, which is a component part of the Ignalina nuclear power station," the letter said. "The situation at the thermal power station could lead to an accident at the atomic power station. It will therefore be necessary to halt the operation of the atomic power station."

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Japan slams Israel's brutality

AMMAN (J.T.) — In an address to the Amman Rotary Club meeting Tuesday, Tadayuki Nonoyama, Japanese ambassador to Jordan, said the May 20 massacre of eight Palestinians by an Israeli gunman was a brutal act. He also denounced the excessive reaction by the Israeli authorities to the subsequent situation which caused heavy additional casualties in the occupied territories. He said that the root cause of these incidents was the fact that peace in the Middle East remained unrealized, and the principles of the U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 had not been implemented. He urged Israel to withdraw from all the territories it occupied since 1967 and to seek a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

Vatican trying to mediate in Mideast conflict

ROME (R) — The Vatican is trying to mediate in the Arab-Israeli conflict and arrange peace talks, according to Michel Sabah, Roman Catholic patriarch of Jerusalem. "The Catholic church is now trying the road on international diplomatic mediation with the objective of summoning a peace conference," he said in an interview to be published Wednesday by the Italian Catholic weekly *Famiglia Cristiana*. Transcripts of the interview were made available to Reuters Tuesday. "It (the Vatican) is in contact with all the powers which can influence Israelis and Palestinians to arrive at peace," added Sabah, the first Arab to be patriarch of Jerusalem.

Israel to cut water supplies

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel will cut water supplies to all consumers after an unusually dry winter, water commissioner Zemah Ishai said. Added to an earlier reduction, the new cut means that some areas of Israel will receive 20 per cent less than their usual annual supply. Agriculture, which uses more than 70 per cent of the country's water, will be the hardest hit, Ishai said. He said that unless farmers used sewage water instead of fresh water, for irrigation, they would have no choice but to drop citrus crops, long a key Israeli export. Some government officials and experts say water use should be trimmed by twice as much. But Ishai said the cutback would ensure that reservoir levels did not fall too low.

De Klerk postpones U.S. trip

CAP TOWN (AP) — President F.W. de Klerk said Tuesday he has postponed his visit to the United States to avoid controversy over whether he or African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela would meet first with the American president. Neither the United States nor the South African government had announced a date for de Klerk to meet President George Bush in Washington. U.S. media had reported a date of June 18. Black American organizations and the ANC office in Washington said it was a stab for Bush to meet De Klerk before meeting Mandela, due to arrive in the United States June 20.

East and West sign charter for bank

PARIS (R) — Finance Ministers from East and West signed Tuesday the charter of a new bank to help reconstruct the battered economies of Eastern Europe, launching what French President Francois Mitterrand called an historic mission. Forty nations, including the United States, Japan and the Soviet Union, signed articles of agreement for the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), setting the seal on eight months of at times heated negotiations. Mitterrand described the bank as a major new international institution which would link East and West now that the formerly communist states of Eastern Europe were finally free to choose their own destiny.

S. Arabia will not abandon Jordan — Prince Faisal

From Lamis Andoni in Baghdad

A SENIOR Saudi Arabian official said Tuesday that his country would continue its support for Jordan amid reports that the Gulf states have decided against any new commitment for annual fixed financial aid to the Kingdom and the Palestinians in the occupied territories.

He said that the root cause of these incidents was the fact that peace in the Middle East remained unrealized, and the principles of the U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 had not been implemented. He urged Israel to withdraw from all the territories it occupied since 1967 and to seek a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

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ACC formally welcomes new Yemen into its ranks

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — The Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) welcomed the newly unified Yemeni Republic into its ranks Tuesday in place of the defunct North Yemeni state.

Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen set in the ACC in February last year but North Yemen merged with South Yemen last week to form the new state.

The heads of state of the four countries — His Majesty King Hussein and Presidents Saddam Hussein of Iraq, Hosni Mubarak

of Egypt and Ali Abdullah Saleh of Yemen — took part in the ceremony on the sidelines of an Arab summit in Baghdad.

Saleh was president of North Yemen before the merger.

ACC Secretary General Helmi Nammar told a news conference that the grouping's next regional summit would take place in Baghdad on Oct. 22. Foreign ministers would hold a preparatory meeting in Amman on Sept. 8.

At Tuesday's meeting, King Hussein voiced happiness and

deep satisfaction over Yemeni unity, describing it as a great national and pan-Arab achievement.

The King expressed hope that the united Yemen would serve as a step on the path of achieving Arab unity and integration and pledged Jordan's full support for Yemen at the various political fora.

King Hussein said that the "Arab Nation and the whole world has started to live a new era of Arab history."

The four leaders of the Arab Cooperation Council — His Majesty King Hussein, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Republic of Yemen President Ali Abdulla Saleh in Baghdad Tuesday (Petra wirephoto)

Gorbachev calls for help in creating new Europe

OTTAWA (Agencies) — Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, looking relaxed and smiling despite his domestic worries, started a visit to Canada Tuesday with an appeal to Western nations to help him create a new Europe.

"We want to be partners with Canada and other Western nations in building a new European home," Gorbachev said in an arrival speech at Ottawa's Upper Canada Air Force Base.

The Soviet president, on a brief and low-key visit to Canada ahead of a summit meeting with President George Bush, showed little outward signs of the grueling schedule he has kept in the past week to deal with mounting troubles at home.

Even as he flew to Canada, Gorbachev suffered another blow with the news that his bitter critic Boris Yeltsin had been elected president of the Russian Federation, the Soviet Union's largest republic (see page 5).

Gorbachev had four hours of talks scheduled with Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and Deputy Premier Yuri Maslyukov, the official Soviet news agency TASS reported.

He arrived in Ottawa at midday and planned to go directly to a private lunch at the prime

minister's official residence. Later, Gorbachev was to meet Governor-General Hnatyshyn, the appointed representative of Queen Elizabeth II.

"This is a time of dramatic change in the world," Gorbachev said, noting that he and the prime minister would cover a wide range of subjects, including developments in Europe and the Arctic.

"It is our hope that this Soviet-Canadian summit will bring us to a new level of cooperation," said Gorbachev.

Mulroney met Gorbachev just six months ago when he made the first official visit to the Soviet Union by a Canadian prime minister in 18 years. It is Gorbachev's second visit to Canada, but his first as Soviet leader. He visited the country in 1983 when he was agriculture secretary.

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Hussein, Rafsanjani may hold face-to-face talks on Gulf peace

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani could meet for face-to-face peace talks to formally end the Gulf war in the next few weeks, a senior PLO official reported Tuesday.

He said Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat will fly to Teheran this week, pursuing a bid to set up direct peace talks and end a rift between Iran and Saudi Arabia, senior officials said.

"The chairman will go to Teheran immediately after the Arab summit," expected to end in Baghdad Wednesday at the latest, one Palestinian official said.

"Barring last-minute complications, direct summit talks between Saddam and Rafsanjani will be under way after a month," he noted.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Cyprus, earlier Tuesday quoted Iranian Parliament Speaker Mehdi Karroubi as saying that Saddam and Rafsanjani may meet, but he gave no time frame.

The PLO official disclosed that Arafat, attending an Arab summit in Baghdad, has sent two messages to Iran's supreme leader, Ali Khamenei, and Rafsanjani in recent days, urging them to respond "quickly and positively" to Iraq's offer for direct peace talks.

The resolution calls for the withdrawal of both sides to inter-

nationally recognised boundaries, an exchange of prisoners, and dredging the Shatt Al Arab Waterway of war debris.

The waterway, formed by the confluence of the Euphrates and Tigris Rivers, forms the southern boundary between the two countries.

Iraq's claim over the strategic waterway was the main stumbling block in peace talks which began five days after the ceasefire.

Four rounds of United Nations-sponsored talks, the last in April 1989, have failed to break that deadlock.

According to press reports in Tehran and Kuwait, the Iraqi letters concede for the first time that the sovereignty of the Shatt Al Arab is negotiable.

Baghdad says it abrogated 1975 treaty that drew the border down the middle of the waterway, giving Iran full navigation rights for the first time.

Iraq insists the treaty is still valid and insists that Baghdad withdraw its troops from Iranian territory captured by its burgeoning military might.

Press reports in the Middle East said Saddam suggested to Rafsanjani that the two countries from an Islamic alliance against

Tuesday that the indirect dialogue between Saddam and Rafsanjani has raised hopes that a peace treaty will soon be agreed.

They quoted Rafsanjani as telling Saddam that Iran would support Iraq if Israel attacked Iraq.

The Soviet Union has offered to host direct negotiations between Iran and Iraq, outside the framework of the United Nations. Both have indicated willingness to accept the offer, the diplomats said.

Officials gathered in Baghdad for the Arab summit believe that the perceived threat posed by Israel is acting as a catalyst that "paves the way to ending Gulf war foes Iran and Iraq toward a peace treaty.

Saddam, apparently prompted by a concerted campaign by Israel and the West against him, has sent two letters to the Tehran leadership in the last month.

He noted his concern about a possible pre-emptive Israeli strike against Iraq amid Western accusations Baghdad is amassing a major arsenal of long-range missiles and chemical weapons and is seeking to build a long-range "super gun" capable of firing rocket-booster shells capable of hitting Israeli cities.

Another spur toward reviving the peace talks is Iraq's fear that Israel plans to launch pre-emptive strikes against Baghdad's burgeoning military might.

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the Jewish state.

Iraq and Iran have agreed that the U.S. military presence in the volatile Gulf region is a threat to their security and should be removed, Arab diplomats said Tuesday.

The diplomats, insisting on anonymity, said that the two countries reached agreement on a recent exchange of letters between their leaders.

Iran needs stability to carry out massive reconstruction and revitalise its economy. Since Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini died last June, Tehran has quietly dropped its demands for massive war reparations and an Iraqi admission it started the war in September 1980 by invading Iran.

Iraq needs to reopen its major port at Basra on the Shatt Al Arab, closed since the war began, and is under domestic pressure to reach an agreement that will bring back its 50,000 prisoners of war.

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He mentioned the possibility that U.S. warships patrolling the Indian Ocean and the Gulf might be used as a launching pad for such an attack or to cover any Israeli operation, the diplomats said.

The sources said that Prince Saad of Saudi Arabia, Sidhah Gobzali of Algeria and Abdul Latif Filali of Morocco met late Monday to draw up a statement on Lebanon to be submitted to the heads of state when they reconvene the summit Tuesday.

The conference is hosted by Iraq, which has supplied the Christians with arms in a bid to thwart the ambitions of Syria in Lebanon.

Syria, which has 40,000 troops deployed in Lebanon under a 1976 Arab League peacekeeping mandate, is the main power broker in that country and has said it supports the peace plan.

The biggest obstacle to implementing the peace accord is rebel Gen. Michel Aoun, a Maronite Catholic and Lebanon's former army commander and caretaker premier.

He rejects the plan, which gives the majority Muslims an equal share of power with the long-dominant Christians, because it does not guarantee a Syria military withdrawal.

Aoun has been fighting his main Christian rival, militia chieftain Samir Geagea, since Jan. 30 for mastery of the Christian enclave north of Beirut where the government's writ does not run.

The statement will call for support for the Syrian-backed Lebanese government of Elias Hrawi and his efforts to extend its authority over the whole country, the sources reported.

It was not clear how the summit, whatever its resolutions, can help Hrawi do that.

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President Hafez Assad of Syria, whose troops control about two-thirds of Lebanon, has boycotted the summit held in the capital of his archrival in the Arab World, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Hrawi, his government dependent on Syrian backing, also failed to attend the summit.

The 16 heads of state attending the two-day-old summit were expected to endorse the foreign ministers' statement before the conference ends.

Lebanon was not on the agenda of the summit drawn up last week.

But the conference sources said the situation in war-torn Lebanon has been raised in informal discussions between Arab leaders.

"A large number of terrorist bandits was captured and sizeable

Arabs seek to boost Lebanon peace plan

BAGHDAD (AP) — The foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Algeria and Morocco, in Baghdad for an emergency Arab summit, were striving Tuesday to bolster a peace treaty to end Lebanon's 15-year-old civil war, conference sources reported.

The ministers formulated the peace accord last year. It was endorsed by Lebanon's parliament in a special session in the Saudi Arabian resort of Taif last October, but so far it has not been implemented because of Christian opposition.

The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that the ministers were determined to have clear-cut support for the peace plan by the summit.

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Lebanese strike to protest against war; Aoun-Geagea clashes continue

BEIRUT (AP) — Most of Lebanon came to a standstill Tuesday in a general strike called to demand an end to the 15-year-old civil war and anti-inflation measures by the largely powerless government.

Shortly before dawn, rival Christian forces loyal to rebel Gen. Michel Aoun and militia chieftain Samir Geagea clashed with mortars for two hours in east Beirut, violating a 12-day-old ceasefire in their four-month-old power struggle.

No casualties were reported.

But the clashes underscored the deep-rooted hostility between the rival forces despite the truce.

The ceasefire has generally held since it took effect on May 17, despite minor violations. But informed sources do not believe the power struggle will end until a political settlement is reached between the two leaders, which is considered a remote possibility by many.

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strators chanted.

"Security produces bread. We want security," they shouted, shaking their fists in the air.

Police said no violence was reported during the demonstration.

Similar peaceful protests

were held in the Christian port of Jounieh, north of Beirut, the southern provincial capital of Sidon and the northern town of Tripoli.

The people of divided Beirut and the Christian enclave north of the city have been without electricity and water supplies since Aoun and Geagea began fighting on Jan. 30 in an inconclusive power struggle for control of Tripoli.

The federation said in a statement that the Christian-Muslim civil war that erupted in 1975 "has displaced us and destroyed our homes and property. Let's strike against the leaders of the war."

"People of Lebanon, the war has led to the creation of armed militias. The continuation of this situation means domination by illegal weapons."

There are no accurate figures for the number of war casualties. But an estimated 150,000 people are believed to have been killed and another 1 million, one-quarter of the pre-war population, displaced.

The Lebanese pound, the most solid currency in the region before the war, has collapsed. Before the war, the exchange rate was 3.5 pounds to the dollar.

When the currency market closed Monday, the rate was 623 to the dollar.

Israel rejects U.N. envoy dealing with security in occupied lands

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel is leaving open the possibility it would allow a U.N. delegation to visit Palestinians in the occupied territories, but only one dealing with issues such as health and education and not with security.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has consistently opposed any U.N. peace-keeping forces or other observers in the occupied Arab territories.

"I don't think we need U.N. observers. We have a long experience in our country with U.N. observers and they have nothing to do with peace. They will bring only tensions," Shamir said in an interview with ABC Television Sunday.

PLO leader Yasser Arafat urged at a Security Council meeting in Geneva over the weekend that U.N. observers be deployed in the occupied Arab territories.

"We are running out of patience," he told reporters Saturday, referring to the casualty toll in the 29-month Palestinian uprising.

He expressed deep concern at the enormous casualties in protests that followed the mass murder of seven Arab workers by an apparently crazed Israeli gunman on May 20.

Giacomelli arrived Monday for a 48-hour visit to show support for UNRWA staff after a week in which Israeli troops and settlers killed 21 Palestinians and wounded more than 900, mostly in the Gaza Strip.

He expressed deep concern at the enormous casualties in protests that followed the mass murder of seven Arab workers by an apparently crazed Israeli gunman on May 20.

Giacomelli met the senior Israeli policymaker for the occupied Arab territories, Shmuel Goren, and said afterwards they had differed on the role of U.N. staff in the occupation zone.

"We had to agree that we disagree," he told Reuters in an interview.

The U.N. agency, which provides health care, education and welfare services to nearly 800,000 Palestinian refugees in the occupied territories, is regarded by Israeli defence officials as being too close to the PLO.

for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA).

But he denied Israeli claims that UNRWA staff were acting as unofficial observers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, shielding Palestinian protesters from the army.

Israel has rejected all proposals to deploy U.N. observers in the territories or allow a U.N. fact-finding team to visit the areas in the wake of high casualties last week.

Giacomelli arrived Monday for a 48-hour visit to show support for UNRWA staff after a week in which Israeli troops and settlers killed 21 Palestinians and wounded more than 900, mostly in the Gaza Strip.

He expressed deep concern at the enormous casualties in protests that followed the mass murder of seven Arab workers by an apparently crazed Israeli gunman on May 20.

Giacomelli met the senior Israeli policymaker for the occupied Arab territories, Shmuel Goren, and said afterwards they had differed on the role of U.N. staff in the occupation zone.

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Ethiopia claims victory against rebels

ADDIS ABABA (AP) — The government has claimed a victory over Tigrean rebels in fighting last week for control of a strategic mountain pass in central Ethiopia.

Newspapers in Addis Ababa said Tuesday that government troops killed 1,450 rebels of the Tigre People's Liberation Front (TPLF) around Debre Libanos, 80 kilometers north of the capital.

"A large number of terrorist bandits was captured and sizeable</p

Regent warns of dangers posed by Israeli policy

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday warned of the ongoing Israeli attempts to Lebanonise the region and divide it into weak factional states, dominated by extremism and violence, unless a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict is found.

At an audience with a visiting U.S. delegation, Prince Hassan recalled His Majesty King Hussein's speech at the opening session of the emergency Arab summit, which started in Baghdad Monday, in which he delineated Jordan's firm position vis-à-vis the dangers posed to Jordan and the whole Arab Nation by the

Israeli expansionist policies, and the Soviet Jewish immigration.

Prince Hassan said that such

immigration poses a genuine dan-

ger to the human rights of the

Palestinian citizens and called on

the international community and

the five permanent members of

the United Nations Security

Council to find a just and com-

prehensive solution to the re-

gion's issues, in light of the con-

tinuing Israeli threats to the pan-

Arab security.

The American delegation is

headed by former U.S. senator

Charles Percy, who served as

chairman of the Foreign Affairs

Committee.

The American delegation is on

a "mission for a just solution in

the Middle East." The 50-member delegation has already visited

Syria and Egypt and will travel to

the occupied West Bank and

Gaza Strip Thursday (See story on

page 5).

Also Tuesday Prince Hassan

received Deputy Chief of Staff of

the Soviet Armed Forces General

Klimonov, who is currently on a

visit to Jordan and reviewed with

him the latest developments on

the Arab and international arenas,

as well as bilateral relations.

The audience was attended by

the Soviet ambassador to Jordan

and the Soviet military attache in

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Talking is something; doing is something else

ARGUMENTS and differences apart, what counts most is what is the practical outcome of the emergency Arab summit which concludes today in Baghdad. It is not enough that the Arab leaders gathered in the Iraqi capital come out with statements strongly supporting Iraq against the Western campaign, calling for increased backing for the intifada and the Palestinian people, pledging political, military and financial support for Jordan, urging the superpowers to stop Israel's settlement policies, and reaffirming calls for Arab solidarity and unity against adversaries and common challenges. They should also work out a framework of action to translate into deeds whatever is agreed upon in Baghdad, whether in the context of the intifada or of solidarity and unity. We have seen enough and more of Arab resolutions coming out of the 1964 summit held in Cairo followed by another 17 gatherings of Arab heads of state in various other Arab capitals and cities but very little of them implemented in their full sense and spirit. In fact, the feeling of the common Arab identity and the sense of sharing a common destiny appeared to have dissipated into thin air as soon as the resolutions were read out and the hosts announced the summits adjourned.

But if that is the fate that awaits the decisions already adopted and expected to be endorsed in Baghdad, then one word of caution to the Arab leaders is in order: Things have gone too far this time around not to take the situation in the Middle East and the developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict seriously. Words in Baghdad in a show of Arab unity can pull very little water if not accompanied by concrete action to reaffirm to the international community that this time the Arabs have really woken up to the game and are indeed realistically prepared to fight off all challenges. Little time and energy should be wasted in diplomatic finesse and considerations of sensitivities of people who have very little regard for Arab sensitivities. Such a message can only come through a practical plan of action designed to support the Palestinian intifada to the hilt, reinforce and maintain Jordan's position as a strong defensive wall against Zionist onslaughts, pressure the superpowers into ensuring that Israel does not settle any more of the occupied territories and does not undertake actions aimed at destabilising the Arab states and, last but not the least, inform the world that the Arabs do not need any international policeman to protect their oil resources; they can take care of it themselves if only the world powers leave them alone. Instead of encouraging Israel's military adventures with almost total immunity, the world powers should understand the genuine security fears of the Arabs and realise that the Jewish state can no longer hope to hit out anyone anytime without expecting the same treatment in return. A seemingly Herculean task; but very simple if the leaders meeting in Baghdad are justified in laying claim to a common Arab identity, the core of which is at stake.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Jordanian daily newspapers Tuesday discussed speeches delivered at the extraordinary summit in Baghdad by His Majesty King Hussein and other Arab leaders, underlining the immense burden the Arabs are now shouldering in confronting their common enemy. Al Ra'i daily said that the King's address contained warnings to the Arab World that Israel's ambitions are designed not only for Palestine but also for Jordan and the rest of the Arab World. Jordan forms the wall fencing off Israel's acts of aggression from reaching the Arab states, but the Kingdom is now shouldering a far heavier burden than it can ever bear, and is in a position prone to Israel's aggression, the paper noted. It echoed the King's warnings that Jordan, which is faced with the Israeli enemy and the Israeli arsenal, is struggling to free itself from the economic burdens and is in a weak position vis-a-vis Israel's formidable force, unless it is supported by the other Arab countries. Not only did the King present the facts to the Arab heads of state, but he also called for a strong, united Arab response to Israel's challenge and arrogance, said the paper. By supporting and assisting Jordan, the paper added, the Arabs are defending themselves from future aggression. Israel's ambitious designs, it stressed, can only be thwarted by unity and solidarity among the Arab states.

A columnist in Al Ra'i newspaper on Tuesday discussed Jordan's need of qualified nurses, turned out from nursing schools in the country to replace those imported from foreign nations. Salih Abdal Samad says that in the light of the shortages in the number of nurses, Jordan had resorted to importing nurses from the Philippines and China in the past; but the nursing schools in the country are now graduating good numbers of qualified men and women to take over services at clinics and hospitals in the Kingdom. The writer notes that the Ministry of Health and the National Medical Institution have both endorsed plans to second Jordanian nurses to Arab states, and to allow others to seek employment abroad with the hope of improving their income and earning the country hard currency. But, he says, that the country still has foreign nurses who continue to transfer their earnings in hard currency to their home countries, a situation which is doing harm to the national economy. Should the health authorities in Jordan allow Jordanians to work abroad, the writer notes, they ought first to ensure that the country has sufficient number of nurses to replace them, rather than allow foreign nurses the chance to stay indefinitely in Jordan.

In his address to the summit Monday, King Hussein outlined a number of facts about the Arab situation and the dangers facing Jordan, said Sawt Al Shabab Arabic daily Tuesday. After pointing out Jordan's endeavours over the past four decades to defend Arab soil and to serve as a strong fortress in the face of Israel's ambitious designs, the King warned of an imminent Israeli aggression on the Kingdom, and asked that the country be backed by its sister states and that the uprising in the Israeli-held Arab territories be supported, because such backing and such support are in reality an exercise of defence of the whole Arab World, said the paper. The paper said that the King's address should serve as a working paper for the Arab summit, lighting the way for the Arab heads of state for collective action.

Economic Forum

Wrong readings on Jordan inflation scale

INFLATION is commonly measured by the consumer price index (CPI) as in the United States, or by the producer price index (PPI) such as in Britain. In certain cases, the so-called gross national product deflator is used for this purpose. Roughly speaking, the index itself, say 160 points at the end of any given year, represents the cost of living, i.e. the accumulated price increases, while the change in that index resembles the rate of inflation. If the index moves to 180 points in the following year, the rate of inflation will be 12.5 per cent. Where this rate of change is less than 5 per cent, we have price stability and can hardly talk about inflation. It is only when prices rise at more than 5 per cent per annum and do that over a number of years that we can

justifiably talk about inflation. This is why inflation is defined in textbooks as the "persistent" or "continuous" increase in prices. In practical life this sophisticated differentiation is rarely observed and the rate of inflation refers not only to any increases in prices but also to a drop in them.

In Jordan, we use the cost of living index to measure inflation. To my mind, there is only a very slight difference between this index and CPI, in the sense that the basket of the former is a part of the much larger basket of the latter. This difference is not insignificant but it does not distort the analysis of price variations based on the cost of living index because we can consider its basket as fairly and reasonably representative of that of CPI. The base year for our cost of

living index is 1986, meaning that the price level in 1986 was 100 points. According to this index, prices rose by 74 per cent in the period 1980-1989, that is at an average annual rate of 7.4 per cent in that decade. The index rose from 76.9 points in 1980 to 106.4 points in 1988 (devaluation year) and stood at 133.8 points at the end of 1989, that is one year after devaluation. These figures mean that the inflation generated in a single year, 1989, mainly due to devaluation, was as much as the inflation generated throughout the previous nine years of the eighties. This gives a very fair account of the havoc devaluation played with the socio-economic life of Jordanians. We firmly believe that the present cost of living index underestimates inflation in Jordan.

Of course a price index such as our cost of living index is constructed from the prices of a basket of goods and services grouped under main headings which are accorded various weights in the light of their relative shares of aggregate consumption expenditures. In the case of Jordan, there are five headings, or groups, broken down into seventeen sub-

groups of the devaluation of the Jordanian dinar (JD).

A Jordanian household that used to spend 50 per cent of its income on imported goods and services prior to the devaluation of 1988 would need more than 50 per cent of that income to buy the same amount of imported goods and services after the devaluation. Therefore, the weight of the imported items in the basket of the cost of living index must have been revised upwards after the devaluation in order to reflect the new facts and to thereby maintain the "accuracy" of the index. This has not been done and therefore the readings are not correct, or are more incorrect. The 1989 inflation rate of 25.8 per cent suggested by the cost of living index is certainly not only in terms of weights but also in terms of contents.

underestimated to the tune of anything between 10 to 15 per cent in our judgment.

Of course, devaluation and the consequential rise in the prices of imports could have very well lowered the spending of the Jordanian household on imports of goods and services. However, this does not affect the essence of the above analysis because this analysis was addressed to the relative, not absolute, shares of the components of household spending. However, it is quite possible that devaluation and the subsequent jump in the inflation rate have affected spending patterns. This means that there is now a need for an abrupt revision of the basket of our cost of living index not only in terms of weights but also in terms of contents.

white putting down protests in the territories following May 20 murder of seven Arabs by a deranged Israeli, the administration reacted sharply.

Baker said Washington was prepared to discuss a Palestine Liberation Organisation proposal to send U.N. observers to the territories — a clearly implied vote of no-confidence in Israel's handling of the protests.

High-level contacts between Israel and the United States have almost dried up since March. Baker no longer talks regularly to Israeli cabinet ministers. Bush has stopped talking to them at all.

A superpower summit of lowered expectations

By Terence Hunt
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — George Bush's second get-together with Mikhail S. Gorbachev shapes up as a summit of lowered expectations.

There will be no treaty signed to limit long-range nuclear missiles, no announcement of a dramatic increase in trade between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Other differences also will be felt: Moscow's resistance to German unity, its pressure on rebellious Lithuania to rejoin the Soviet fold, and the slow pace of a summit of lowered expectations.

The Bush administration feels Moscow has slowed the pace of the discussions on a conventional forces in Europe treaty, in part, because it wants the large West German army scaled back.

On this issue, there may be signs of movement.

Last week, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze said Moscow "advocates an acceleration in the Vienna negotiations." He rejected the notion that Moscow's concerns over the West German army have made his government hesitant to sign a CFE agreement.

Lithuania also promises, in Bush's words, to put "some tension on the summit."

Secretary of State James Baker said recently that "a good bit" of the president's time will be spent discussing the moves by Baltic states to become independent and Gorbachev's pressure to keep them in the fold.

Gorbachev, facing tests of his power at an important Communist Party congress in July, likely will be unwilling to give up too much to Bush, experts say.

Recognising the two leaders' fondness for surprises, many experts believe that something unexpected will emerge from the summit — but probably nothing earthshaking.

"They are almost compelled to pull one or two rabbits out of the hat but they're going to be fairly small rabbits," predicted Robert W. Tucker, a Soviet specialist at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.

Possible steps towards progress include further compromises for a pact covering long-range nuclear missiles, where a differences already have been narrowed significantly, or pledges to revive slowly moving negotiations on a treaty to slash the superpowers' European armies and stores of conventional arms.

Tucker said the real importance of the summit is that it continues the string of superpower meetings.

"It's part of the long and complicated and arduous process of

negotiating with Gorbachev to accommodate Shamir's approach to peacemaking and invested time and effort in it and at the last moment Shamir brushed them off. These are men who don't like to fail," he said.

Israeli-U.S. relations have been through rocky times before. Their lowest point was probably in 1956 and 1957 when President Dwight D.

U.S.-Israel ties soured?

By Alan Elsner
Reuter

WASHINGTON — U.S.-Israeli relations have slid into a period of bitterness fuelled by strong personal dislike between the leaders of the two countries.

Officials and analysts said sourness between the Jewish state and its major ally was likely to persist and even worsen until Israel produced a government willing to commit itself to a peace dialogue with Palestinians.

"There is no doubt we are in a phase of tension and stumbling where there is irritation on both sides and each jumps on almost every statement the other makes," said one Israeli source who declined to be named.

At the heart of the relationship is the strong antipathy between Israel's hard-line Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and President George Bush and his secretary of state, James Baker.

"Bush and Baker are genuinely angry at Shamir and make little effort to disguise it," said William Quandt, a Middle East analyst with the Brookings Institution, a liberal Washington think tank.

"They think they went to considerable lengths to accommodate Shamir's approach to peacemaking and invested time and effort in it and at the last moment Shamir brushed them off. These are men who don't like to fail," he said.

Israeli-U.S. relations have been through rocky times before. Their lowest point was probably in 1956 and 1957 when President Dwight D.



March after Shamir failed to endorse Baker's ideas for a peace dialogue with Palestinians from the occupied territories.

U.S. opinion was outraged in 1982 by the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and its indirect role in the massacre of Palestinians in Beirut refugee camps.

"The problem now is a long-term pessimism that is creeping into the relationship, almost entirely due to the attitude and actions of the Shamir government," said Geoffrey Kemp, an analyst with the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

The key event was the fall of the Israeli government in

March after Shamir failed to endorse Baker's ideas for a peace dialogue with Palestinians from the occupied territories.

Since then, everything has gone wrong in the relationship.

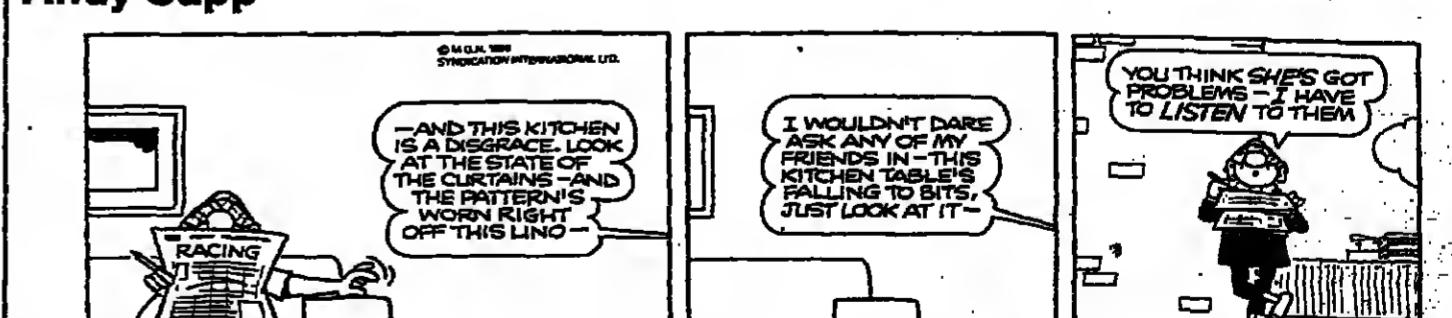
While Israel has groped for 10 weeks to find a new government, Shamir's caretaker administration approved new settlements in the territories and secretly financed the takeover by Jewish nationalists of a Greek Orthodox hospice in the heart of the Christian quarter of occupied Jerusalem.

When Israeli troops and settlers killed 15 Palestinians

Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



Jamal Al-Jabari
P.O. Box 96056
Amman.

Percy: No peace without Palestinian state, Israeli demand for veto over negotiators is unrealistic

Israeli settlements raise fears of war, says former U.S. senator

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Settlement of Jewish immigrants in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip will only perpetuate tension and push the Middle East towards another Arab-Israeli war, and it is time Israel realized this reality and accepted the concept of land in return for peace with the Arabs, according to a veteran American politician and lawmaker.

"If there is any sincerity for peace on the part of Israel, it should immediately accept to negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the representative of the Palestinian people," said Charles Percy, a former member of the U.S. Senate (Democrat — Illinois). "The Israeli demand for the right to choose the Palestinian negotiators is totally unrealistic," added Percy, who is here at the head of a delegation of 50 Americans on a "mission for a just solution in the Middle East."

Drawing an analogy for the Israeli stand that the Jewish state should have a veto over any member of a Palestinian delegation for peace talks, Percy asked: "Since when does a businessman have the luxury of enjoying the right to name the union delegates for negotiations to settle a dispute?"

"There is no chance for peace in the Middle East without the creation of an independent Palestinian state, and the involvement of a moderate government such as Jordan in a confederal arrangement after the state is created should be a factor which encourages Israel to pursue peace talks," he said.

The Crown Prince explained that the Jewish state should have a veto over any member of a Palestinian delegation for peace talks, Percy said: "Since when does a businessman have the luxury of enjoying the right to name the union delegates for negotiations to settle a dispute?"

"Israel must begin the process of negotiations with the Palestinians, and the internationally-recognised representative of the Palestinian people is the PLO," said Percy, who lost his bid for retain his seat in the Senate in the last elections after what was widely seen as a concerted campaign against him mounted by the America-Israeli Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), the pro-Israel lobby in the U.S.

Percy, who at one time was labelled "number one enemy of Israel" by the Jewish lobby for his firm positions in support of American interests (which, according to many U.S. experts, "happen to coincide with Arab interests"), said he found a strong desire for peace among the people of the Middle East — but blamed Israeli intransigence for the stagnation in the peace process.

"Even the people of Israel want peace," he said. "That is why it is today so difficult for their leaders to form a government," he added, referring to the ongoing efforts by the caretaker prime minister and right-wing leader, Yitzhak Shamir, to secure parliamentary majority to form a coalition cabinet.

Syria very 'desirous of peace'

The "mission for a just solution in the Middle East" includes several leading American politicians, among them former presidential candidate John Anderson, three former members of the House of Representatives, prominent Christian, Muslim and Jewish leaders in the United States (including Rabbi Robert Marx from Chicago), leading businessmen, academics, journalist and ex-hostage Jerry Levin, Canadian parliament member Ian Wadell, Hollywood star Mike Farrell, and experts on the Middle East.

Percy, who arrived in Amman Monday night after visits to Syria and Egypt, said he also found Syrian President Hafez Al-Assad "very desirous of peace."

"We spent two hours with President Assad in Damascus," he said. "We came off with the impression that Syria is ready for peace with Israel if the Golan Heights were returned to it and mutually agreeable security arrangements could be worked out."

President Assad wants to do a lot of things for his country and people," Percy said. "But, the enormous military expenditure caused by the tension in the region is foiling his efforts."

During a meeting with the delegation Tuesday morning, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, underlined "a most important factor in the Middle East and elsewhere," Percy said.

The Crown Prince quoted the Crown Prince as saying: "We must move from where strategy and politics matter and seem all important to where people really matter and are the most important consideration. When we do that then the relations between 'the haves' and 'have-nots' can be the important development."

The Crown Prince also pointed out that the eight-year war between Iran and Iraq had cost \$1 trillion which could otherwise have been spent on the welfare of the people of the region, according to Percy.

The delegation began its trip May 21, and first visited Syria and then Egypt, where they met with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali.

According to Percy, "we found that Egypt is very much in favour of the idea of a U.N. presence in the occupied territories (since) it would help greatly to diffuse the tension there."

Five main points

The delegation has adopted five main points as its guidelines for the mission:

— The reaffirmation that United Nations Resolutions

242 and 338 must be the starting point for meaningful negotiations for an acceptable solution to both sides of the conflict.

— The resolution of the conflict, through non-violent means, must be monitored, approved, and guaranteed by the United Nations and the international community.

— An independent Palestinian state must be created along the state of Israel, with guaranteed security for both states and encouragement should be given to the exploring of confederation arrangements.

(Percy explained that "any discussion of a confederation arrangement should come only after an independent Palestinian state is created. This is a view shared by Jordan, as we understood from our meeting with the Crown Prince this morning").

— Officials of the Israeli government and the recognised leaders of the Palestinian people should enter into direct talks without preconditions for a comprehensive and just solution. There is no viable alternative to acceptance of the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinians.

(According to Percy, the Crown Prince explained that Jordan, which disengaged itself from the occupied West Bank in favour of the PLO in 1988, has no desire whatsoever of speaking on behalf of the Palestinian people. The Kingdom is willing, if specifically asked, to join the negotiating team. But the overall framework should be an international conference under U.N. auspices).

— The American delegation supports President George Bush's "wise and just opposition" to any new settlement in all the occupied territories as constituting disturbing barriers to Middle East peace.

Percy said it was only a coincidence that the delegation was visiting the Middle East at a time when an emergency Arab summit is held in Baghdad, Iraq, where Soviet Jewish emigration and the threats inherent in the massive influx of Soviet Jews to Israel are one of the key topics.

Explosive issue

The ex-senator described Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel as "one of the most explosive issues," and called for "an Israeli pledge monitored by observers that none of the newcomers will be settled in occupied West Bank or Gaza Strip."

Any such settlement, he said, "is like pouring gasoline into an already overheated situation" and "will push the area to the brink of war."

One of the main goals of the delegation, Percy said, is to influence the U.S. administration

to Middle East peace process.

The delegation is scheduled to be received by Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Lawzi and Lower House Speaker Suleiman Arar Wednesday before leaving for the occupied West Bank early Thursday. It will be back in Amman June 5.

The delegation's visit is organised by the Washington, D.C.-based Pax-World Foundation and coordinated by the local chapters of the Middle East Council of Churches based in Cyprus.

The delegation's visit is organised by the Washington, D.C.-based Pax-World Foundation and coordinated by the local chapters of the Middle East Council of Churches based in Cyprus.

Summit logjam remains over approach to U.S.

(Continued from page 1)

who departed from a prepared text to repeatedly denounce American "imperialism" in an open expression of scorn at the American memo.

However, the Iraqi leader was seen to have projected a "well-balanced argument" that the possession and developments of weapons in the Arab World is not necessarily an aggressive purpose, but for self-defence.

President Hussein said Monday that he would use weapons of mass destruction against Israel if it deployed its nuclear arsenals against any Arab state.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat told the conference Monday that Israel has 200 nuclear bombs.

At the closed-door session Tuesday, the PLO leader said Israel was conducting military exercises in the Naqeeb desert in preparation for an assault on

Iraq's military installations.

In his speech Monday, Arafat urged Arab leaders to mobilise their wealth in support of the Palestinian uprising.

"We are duty bound to use all weapons, including sanctions — economic boycotts and political and psychological pressures — against states, establishment and companies that participate in aggression against Arab territory," Arafat said.

He denounced the U.S. Congress for describing Jerusalem as Israel's capital in recent non-binding resolutions.

"This illegitimate declaration amounts to aggression on Arab dignity," Arafat said.

He said Arab Jerusalem "is part of the Palestinian territory under Israeli occupation. It is the capital of the State of Palestine."

Arafat also accused the United States of supporting Israel's settlement of Jews in occupied Syrian and Lebanese territory, as well as in the West Bank.

The PLO wants the summit, boycotted by Syria and Lebanon, to

back the idea of sending U.N. observers or peacekeepers to the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The United States said Tuesday it hopes any joint statement emerging from meetings of the Arab League would contribute to peace in the Middle East, and it called statements

by President Hussein "outrageous," the AP reported.

"Our view of these statements remains as it was several weeks ago. They're irresponsible; they're outrageous," said State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler.

British foreign secretary

(Continued from page 1)

other parts of the world, and it is unacceptable for Israel to refuse to sit down," he said.

Hurd reiterated that Soviet Jewish immigrants "have no right in settle in the occupied territories and (Arab) East Jerusalem."

"This view is well known to the Israelis and to the Soviet Jews themselves, because you cannot deal with injustice against a certain group by producing injustice to another," Hurd said.

Israel expects about 150,000 Soviet Jews to arrive this year. The issue is a leading item on the agenda of the Arab summit meeting now taking place in Baghdad.

Cyprus Airways

Proudly announce the resumption of its flights
AMMAN-LARNACA-AMMAN
As from 1st June 1990 at the following schedule

AMMAN-LARNACA			
Frequency	Flight No.	Dep. Arr.	Class
Wed/Fri	CY 403	1230 * - 1415 *	C/Y
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Heated trade debate looms at OECD talks

PARIS (AP) — The Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development's (OECD) annual two-day ministerial meeting this week may produce heated discussion on international trade, senior officials of the 24-nation group said Monday.

Trade has come to the foreground because only six months remain to conclude the Uruguay Round of the 98-nation General Agreement on Tariff and Trade (GATT) talks, scheduled to end in Brussels in December. Negotiations began in 1986 with the objective of liberalising trade in goods and services.

At a briefing, OECD officials said the ministerial meeting starting here Wednesday would provide an opportunity for member states to "show we are doing all we can to move the negotiations forward. In view of the difficulties, this may well be one of the most vigorously discussed issues."

The OECD meeting and the July summit meeting of the seven industrialised democracies in Houston, Texas, represent what officials said was a last opportunity for major players in the trade talks to get negotiations moving toward revamping the multilateral trading system.

The officials, who cannot be identified under guidelines for the briefing, said there were significant differences among OECD members over trade policies for agriculture and textiles.

The OECD monitors economies of its member states and serves as a clearing house for exchange of information. It is headed by Jean-Claude Paye of France.

The U.S. delegation to the talks will be headed by Treasury Secretary Nicholas F. Brady and include Agriculture Secretary Clayton K. Yeutter, Trade Representative Carla Hills and Michael J. Boskin, chairman of the Council on Economic Advisors.

Officials involved in the GATT

talks are scheduled to meet in Geneva July 23. However, some of them say it now looks increasingly unlikely they will come up with the outline of an accord for reform in 15 key areas that would be signed at the December session.

Agriculture

The OECD officials said among the most difficult areas was agriculture, which dominated the discussions at last year's ministerial meeting.

The United States has proposed that all export subsidies be eliminated within five years and all domestic farm support programmes be ended within 10 years. A recent OECD study found that the annual cost of agricultural subsidies in its six main farm trading regions — Australia, Canada, the European Community, Japan, New Zealand and the United States — exceeds \$70 billion.

European Community countries oppose ending subsidies, saying such a step would hurt millions of small farmers. They want to increase payments in some areas while reducing them in others.

Other topics to be aired at the OECD meeting include a review of the international economic situation, OECD relations with non-member countries, and the environment.

The officials said the final communiqué, unlike previous years, will contain no policy recommendations to individual countries.

Instead, the statement will underline the need for OECD governments to place less reliance on monetary policies in dealing with inflation, stress the need to reduce budget deficits, particularly in the United States, and urge countries to continue structural reform of their economies.

On relations with non-members, the talks will attempt to identify areas where cooperation with the dynamic economies of Asia can be strengthened.

Iraq asks Arab leaders to discuss Kuwait quota busting

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq, angered by Kuwait's oil quota busting, is taking the issue to leaders of major Arab oil producers, a senior Gulf oil official said Tuesday.

"The Iraqis feel that Kuwait's non-adherence to its OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) quota has led to the present fall in oil prices," he told Reuters.

The official, who declined to be named, said the oil ministers of Saudi Arabia, Iraq and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) had discussed Kuwait's behaviour at a meeting in Baghdad Monday.

Iraq has often complained about overproduction by OPEC members and President Saddam Hussein had been reported to want to use the Arab oil quota

currently hosting to raise the issue at the level of heads of state.

The meeting of oil ministers Hisham Nazer of Saudi Arabia, Mana Saeed Otiba of the United Arab Emirates and Issam Al Chalabi of Iraq late Monday on the margins of the summit indicated the Iraqi leadership was persuaded to keep the matter low key.

No details emerged in the immediate wake of the tripartite ministerial parley but the sources said they met to coordinate production and marketing policies and agreement was reached on the necessity of abiding by the OPEC-decreed production quotas for the cartel's 13 member nations.

The Iraqi minister, they said, promised to abide by the quota

prescribed for Iraq, a daily average of 3.14 million barrels.

Otiba and Nazer also committed themselves similarly, they added without elaborating.

He said the ministers decided to ask their heads of state to discuss it with Kuwait's Emir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah, in Baghdad.

Kuwaiti Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al Sabah said earlier this month that his country, a major producer in OPEC, has stopped all spot sales to an already saturated market.

Only Saudi Arabia is believed to have cut its production in line with an OPEC agreement earlier this month which required substantial reductions by Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia to shore up sagging oil

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY MAY 30, 1990

By Thomas S. Pearson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES

There is little confusion in effect today as you strive to complete that which was begun in a bygone day. Gates and doors that you thought were definitely closed to you, open.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Your own ideas and goals are those which you would be wise to pursue now with courage and confidence so let others know what they can do to assist you.

Taurus: (April 20 to May 20) This is the day for you to quietly meet with advisors and others who can be of service to you and charm them in going along with your intimate aims.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Consider well that friends and acquaintances can be most aware of your abilities and who will be willing to help you put them across right away.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) A fellow associate has a flash idea that can be very helpful in whatever your joint ventures require in order to put across a joint project.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Get right into that special aptitude you want to put across for the planet. Smile upon the effort you have to perfect and make workable.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Showing some extra affection upon those that dwell beneath your own roof will bring a greater amount of union between you and family.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Look into whatever will make your usual activities more productive and then don't lose time in following through by definite, positive action.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Consider well what new project of a financial nature you can put into motion and be sure that it is considerable scope of possibilities to it.



Greece has no money to meet union demands

ATHENS (R) — Greek Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis, facing a wave of strikes protesting against his conservative government's austerity measures, said the state had no money to satisfy union demands.

"In all honesty the Greek people can not afford to pay. There is no ability to satisfy financial demands by any sector," Mitsotakis told parliament in a speech defending his government's first 50 days in power.

Price hikes and the privatisation of debt-ridden state firms aimed at reducing huge public deficits, the root of Greece's economic problems, have prompted a series of strikes.

Mitsotakis defended his measures as the least his government could do to counter public sector deficits and raise Greece's credibility abroad.

"We had repeated reports from the Organisation for Economic Development, the International Monetary Fund and the European Community and the conclusions are the same: The Greek economy has reached a most critical point and urgent measures are needed," he said.

Greece's public sector deficit had surpassed 21 per cent of the gross national product (GNP) and would have surpassed 23 per cent if the measures had not been taken, Mitsotakis said.

"We have to borrow to cover consumer needs and our borrowing ability is soon reaching its end," he said.

Mitsotakis reaffirmed his government's decision to sell debt-ridden state firms and said that even profitable ones would be handed to the private sector in accordance with his new democracy party's pledge to liberalise the economy.

He said 100,000 part-time state employees would be dismissed by the end of May when their contracts expired because the state could not pay them.

More anti-government protests have been planned, including a teachers' strike scheduled for this week which will prevent students from taking university entrance examinations.

"We are faced today with strike movements and a negative attitude toward our policy in general... but the lack of money is the final law," Mitsotakis told parliament.

He said that in order to restore the government's credibility at home and abroad people should be told the truth.

"Our measures are correct and we will back them but I don't know if they are enough. If they are not then we will add more," Mitsotakis said.

Yemen unity to boost economy

SANAA (R) — An end to years of tension between the two Yemens should allow cuts in military spending and help the economy of the newly-merged Yemeni republic, officials and economists say.

They predict that a more stable atmosphere within the new Arabian peninsula state — with a combined army of around 64,000 — will encourage more Yemenis to invest badly-needed foreign capital at home.

One of the main benefits of unity is the removal of military tension — it means less defence allocations and more stability," the republic's new Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Al Iryani told Reuters.

North and South Yemen, which merged last week after being divided for more than three centuries, fought a fierce border war in 1972 and had been on poor terms for years.

Now, green-capped soldiers from the south patrol alongside maroon-bereted northerners they were once trained to fight.

Soldiers of both armies were withdrawn from major cities and some units were exchanged and deployed across their old borders ahead of the merger.

Official statistics show North Yemen spent \$471 million on

defence and security in 1988 — around 27 per cent of total expenditure. Recent figures for the formerly socialist South Yemen were not available.

The Sanaa-based government is expected to announce a six-month budget for the new state next week. North Yemen had predicted a deficit of \$600 million for 1990.

Initially costly

Analysts say initially, the merger will be costly as the new government will have to raise southern pay scales to northern levels.

There will be teething problems as southern economic institutions — once run by doctrinaire socialists — liberalise and merge with northern ones.

But analysts are optimistic that funds will be forthcoming for investment in the united Yemen.

Northern oil revenues reached \$560 million in 1989 and are expected to rise further this year. There is expectation of new oil finds in the less-explored south, which experts say has much larger reserves.

A key issue is whether the new state can convince wealthy investors from the south who are now living abroad to bring their money home.

Some of the wealthiest

businessmen in neighbouring Saudi Arabia are South Yemenis who fled when Aden turned socialist after independence from Britain in 1967.

These entrepreneurs — many of whom do not feel entirely secure as naturalised Saudis — could easily build a base of operations in Yemen as a kind of insurance policy, economists say.

"People are not putting money into the south just yet — they are waiting to see what will happen and how compensation for nationalised properties is handled," one economist said.

The merged parliament is discussing a draft investment law which will cut red tape for local and foreign businessmen, offer more liberal incentives, and allow people to raise their own foreign exchange.

Remittances

Both Yemenis had been badly hit by steep falls in remittances from expatriates working in oil-rich Gulf states.

Many Yemeni expatriates change their money in the Saudi city of Jeddah and then deposit part of it abroad or spend it on smuggled goods at home.

THE BETTER HALF



"Summer is coming soon. Guess who tried to practice water skiing in the bathtub?"

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

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THAT SCRABBLE WORD GAME

by Herb Arnold and Bob Lee

YAK YAK

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AN "ADDICTION" TO THIS CAN CAUSE SOME PEOPLE TO BECOME SLEEPY.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: **_____**

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: **RUMMY MONEY GIBBET HUNTER**

Answer: What might Tom do when his car breaks down? —TOM "THUMB"

THE Daily Crossword

by Sidney Robbins

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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

PAT **FIRE** **RAPE**

SALE **DING** **DRUG**

SPRING **EMILY** **DRUNK**

GREATSCOT **ROBB**

ROBB **ROBB** **ROBB**

ROBB <b

Scotland overcomes Malta 2-1

VALLETTA (R) — Bayern Munich striker Alain McInally scored both Scotland's goals as the World Cup finalists struggled to overcome Malta 2-1 in a friendly soccer international Monday.

Scotland, who lost 3-1 at home to Egypt 12 days ago and had won only one of their previous seven matches, scored their winner with nine minutes remaining.

They had looked set for a huge victory in their final warm-up game before the World Cup when McInally grabbed a glorious opening goal after just five minutes.

Malta, without a win in their previous 19 internationals, looked apprehensive, but when the Scots subsequently failed to make anything of their vast possession, the Maltese grew in confidence.

They equalised two minutes from halftime when Michael De Giorgio's long-range free-kick pierced the defensive wall, possibly taking a deflection past first-half keeper Andy Goran.

Four second-half substitutions brought renewed fire to Scotland's play, but it was McInally, who has now scored three goals in seven internationals, who did most to stretch the home side's defense.

Manager Andy Roxburgh's only injury worry from the game was defender Gary Gillespie, who came off just before halftime when he received a knock in a heavy tackle.

Umbria shocks Brazil

In other games, star-studded Brazil, who will be vying for their fourth World Cup in the finals starting next month, went down to a shock 1-0 defeat in a warmup friendly against an Umbria selection Monday.

Umbria striker Arturino was too quick for goalkeeper Taffarel, beating him to the ball to score the only goal six minutes from the start from a corner kick.

It was Umbria's only corner to Brazil's 11, but the home team managed to withstand almost constant pressure with a mixture of luck and poor finishing from a Brazil attack boasting such names as Careca, Muller, Valdo, Romario and Bebeto.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH
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HOW TO HANDLE A LONG SUITE

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
* K Q J 4
* A Q J 9
0 A J 5
* 7 3

WEST
* 9 6 5 3
* 7 5 2
* 8 7 3
* 10 6 4

EAST
* K 10 8
* 8 6 3
* Q 10 9 4
* K J 9

SOUTH
A 2
* K 10 4
0 K 6 2
* A Q 8 5 2

The bidding:
South: West: North: East:
1 NT: Pass: 2 NT: Pass:
Pass: 6 NT: Pass:
Pass:
Opening lead: Seven of ♦

There's a cardinal rule of defense: "If you have a choice of cards to play to a trick, play the card you are known to hold." It's a reaped rich reward on this deal.

After South's no-trump opening, North checked for a possible 4-4 major fit. When none was uncovered, North simply bid what he thought the combined aces would yield.

West led a top-of-nothing heart, taken in dummy. There were 10 fax

Italy plays Greece today in warm up soccer match

PERUGIA, Italy (R) — Italian manager Azeglio Vicini hopes history will repeat itself when the World Cup hosts take on Greece Wednesday in their last warm-up match before next month's finals.

In 1934, when the Italians won the World Cup on home soil, their last friendly in the run-up was a 4-0 victory over the Greeks in Milan.

They had looked set for a huge victory in their final warm-up game before the World Cup when McInally grabbed a glorious opening goal after just five minutes.

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It was Umbria's only corner to Brazil's 11, but the home team managed to withstand almost constant pressure with a mixture of luck and poor finishing from a Brazil attack boasting such names as Careca, Muller, Valdo, Romario and Bebeto.

I've never even scored two goals in a match for Inter," said the Internazionale Milan defender, one of five survivors from the Bologna game. "I hope it augurs well for all Wednesday at Perugia."

Vicini said the Greek squad included seven players from the 1986 clash.

"This means we'll meet an experienced side and the match will be a good test for us," he said.

In eight previous encounters with Greece, the Italians have won five times, drawn twice and lost once.

Italy will not be at full strength as midfielder Roberto Donadoni will be the only AC Milan player in the team.

Vicini is resting the Milan players — Franco Baresi, Paolo Mal-

dini and Carlo Ancelotti — who retained the European Cup in the final against Benfica a week ago. Donadoni missed the match through suspension.

Besides Bergomi, goalkeeper Walter Zenga, Donadoni, midfielder Fernando De Napoli and star striker Gianni Vialli played in the 1986 match against Greece.

Greek coach Antonis Georgiadis sees the match as a test for his side's preparations for the 1992 European championship.

"The Italian team is one of the favourites in the World Cup but we will try our best to show Greece can become an upcoming force in European soccer," he said.

"I hope my team will do well as we are not facing any (injury) problems."

Beckenbauer tells West Germans to move up a gear

GELSENKIRCHEN, West Germany (R) — Coach Franz Beckenbauer, in charge of West Germany for the last time on home soil, has told his players to move their game up a gear in their final World Cup warm-up match against Denmark Wednesday.

The Germans, beaten finalists at the 1982 and 1986 World Cups, produced a cautious but confidence-building performance in their 1-0 victory over Czechoslovakia in Dusseldorf at the weekend.

Beckenbauer, so immersed in the Denmark friendly noticed the Danes' friendly when he hardly noticed the German friendly was his last home game — he leaves the job after next month's finals — is keen for his first-choice

line-up to push themselves in their final dress rehearsal.

"If I hadn't been reminded (about the last match at home), I wouldn't have realised," he said. "What's more important is that everyone runs a lot harder in this match."

Beckenbauer, whose side play in group D with Yugoslavia, Colombia and the United Arab Emirates, is expected to field an almost unchanged side against the Danes, who are rebuilding with new players after failing to reach the European finals.

Bayern Munich goalkeeper Raimond Aumann, who is making a late bid to be number one choice after some superb club from this season, is expected to

replace Bodo Illgner.

But apart from Aumann, the West Germans are likely to start the match with the side that looked much more secure in defense against Czechoslovakia after a hesitant defensive display in a 3-3 draw with Uruguay last month.

Veteran Libero Klans Augenthaler, returning after injury, provided more security at the back against the Czechoslovaks.

With less than two weeks to go before the Germans' first match against Yugoslavia in Milan on June 10, the only question facing Beckenbauer is whether to play talented midfielder Thomas Haessler in a wide or central position.

Puckett's homer lifts Twins to 6-4 victory over Orioles

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Kirby Puckett's second homer of the game, a three-run shot in the seventh inning, boosted the Minnesota Twins to a 6-4 victory over the Baltimore Orioles Monday for their fifth straight victory.

The Twins trailed 4-2 entering the bottom of the seventh when Junior Ortiz hit a one-out double and Dan Gladden singled him to third. After Fred Manrique

struck out, Puckett hit Joe Price's 2-2 pitch deep into the left-centre

Gem Larkin and Gary Gaetti also homered for the Twins, who tied a club record with their 19th victory in May. Randy Milligan hit his third Homer for the Twins.

Juan Berenguer (4-0) pitched a two-hitter innings for the victory.

In Kansas City, Missouri, Bret Saberhagen (4-3) scattered nine hits for his third straight complete-game victory and Kevin Seitzer hit a pair of doubles, giving him five straight extra-base hits, as Kansas City equalled its longest winning streak of the season at three straight.

Fletcher, who came into the game hitting .192, opened the seventh with a single off Tim Leary (3-5). He took second on Ozzie Johnson's sacrifice, went to third as Lance Johnson grounded out and scored when Ventura, who began the game with a .143 average, grounded a single up the middle. Fletcher also scored Chicago's first run in the fourth on a wild pitch.

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Seitzer doubled and scored to lead off the game. Mike MacFarlane had an RBI single in the second and MacFarlane and Terry Shumpert hit consecutive doubles in the seventh. Detroit scored in the fourth on two-out singles by the ninth for his 15th save.

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Bulls even series with Pistons

CHICAGO (AP) — Michael Jordan scored 19 of his 42 points in the fourth quarter Monday and the Chicago Bulls, who had all but blown a 19-point lead, defeated the Detroit Pistons 108-101 to even their National Basketball Association (NBA) Eastern Conference best-of-7 playoff at two games each.

The Bulls built a 57-38 lead early in the second half before Joe Dumars took charge for the Pistons, scoring 17 of his 24 points in the third period to cut the margin to 71-68.

But Jordan, limited to only three points in the third period, scored 13 of Chicago's first 16 points in the first six minutes of the final quarter. And John Paxson, who finished with 17 points, made a 3-point basket and converted a three-point play in the closing minutes before the Bulls

scored 13 of their final 16 points.

It was the first time a top seed

men's or women's — had lost

in the first round here since Manuel Santana defaulted because of an injury in 1965. The last time a men's top seed failed to make it past the first round in any grand slam tournament was 1971, when John Newcombe lost to Jan Kodes at the U.S. Open.

As the clay-court tournament

ended its second day, the latest

teenage sensation of women's

tennis made her grand slam

debut.

Isiah Thomas led Detroit with

26 points and Dennis Rodman

bad 20.

Except for the Detroit-dominated

third period, the Bulls were

in charge most of the way.

There were five ties early in the

first quarter, the last at 12-12

after a basket by James Edwards.

Bill Cartwright hit two straight to start a 12-1 Chicago run that included three-point plays by

Scottie Pippen and Jordan.

The Bulls kept up the attack and turned it into a 16-4 run as the quarter ended with Chicago on top.

Bush : We have a better chance now for a lasting world peace

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President George Bush, back from a weekend of boating and golf in Maine, is closeting himself in the White House for intensive preparations before what he predicts will be a no-surprise summit with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

His schedule for Tuesday and Wednesday was clear of ceremonies, speeches and other routine appointments that often crowd the president's schedule.

Instead, Bush said he would spend the time in "intensive consultations" with top advisers to be sure all is ready for Gorbachev's arrival for four days starting Thursday.

"I think I know the issues," Bush told reporters Monday in Kennebunkport, Maine. "German unification, Germany's role in NATO, arms control, START, conventional forces, chemical weapons, nuclear treaties ... we've got a big agenda."

Meanwhile, U.S. and Soviet negotiators tied up loose ends on a trade agreement that would let the two countries sell more to each other, the New York Times reported Tuesday.

The Soviet Union would re-

ceive the lowest available tariffs in the United States to sell more vodka, furs, textiles and other goods, and it would be eligible for U.S. government credit programs, the newspaper reported.

The United States won agreements on improved software copyright protection, faster action on getting commercial representation in Moscow and a start on repayment of the Soviets' World War II era lend-lease debts, the Times said.

But Bush noted Monday that Moscow has not enacted a law relaxing emigration rules. "So I don't think that issue will be an action item. I expect it will be talked about because as they move towards a free market economy, trade with the West is

vitally important to them."

Earlier, setting out to play golf, Bush said he believes Gorbachev is "pretty darn strong" despite the tumult in the Soviet Union over plans to raise food prices sharply in a jarring move toward a free market economy.

Asked if he expected any surprises from Gorbachev, Bush said, "I don't think so," but added, "I don't know. You always hear about that. I don't think so."

Bush, who sprang a 17-point surprise package of his own at December's summit in Malta, laughed and said no when asked if he had anything up his sleeve.

He said Gorbachev "has enormous problems, but it's not our business as the United States to sort out the other person's economic problems. We've got some of our own."

And he singled out the Soviet pressure on Lithuania and the other Baltic states as "one situation that concerns me enormously."

In Paris, French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas Tuesday said there could be an East-West crisis if the Western alliance failed to calm Soviet worries about a uni-

fied Germany joining NATO.

Dumas said in a radio interview that he sympathised with Gorbachev's opposition to a reunited Germany's membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

Gorbachev has taken a suddenly tough stand on the question, saying it could upset the delicate balance of power in Europe and warning that Moscow could revise its stance on disarmament and cooperation if the West continued to discuss the idea.

"The request concerning the security of the Soviet Union is in my view legitimate," Dumas said on the Europe-1 network. "It is the duty of the West to address this concern."

"If we do not find a proper solution within a reasonable period of time there is a threat of crisis or tension between East and West," he added.

Diplomatic sources said Dumas' statements could reflect growing concern for Gorbachev's position at home or French fears.

Bush said Saturday he hoped to persuade Gorbachev to go along with the idea of Germany joining NATO during this week's Washington summit.

Soviets dismantle giant radar station

WASHINGTON (R) — The Soviet Union has begun tearing down a giant Siberian radar station that symbolised arms control mistrust with the United States, bringing a strategic arms agreement dramatically closer.

Soviet Foreign Ministry official Vitaly Churkin disclosed Monday night that dismantling had started

at the Krasnoyarsk installation 11 hours before President Mikhail Gorbachev left Moscow on his way to Canada and this

is not a surprise.

... some preparations we have started this work," Churkin, a close adviser to Soviet Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze, told ABC television.

President George Bush and Gorbachev hope to declare the new strategic arms reduction treaty (START) agreed in principle at the end of the summit talks.

Natal violence claims 27 lives since weekend

JOHANNESBURG (R) — At least 27 people have died in running battles between rival political gangs which have flared up in the past two days in South Africa's Natal province, police and township monitors said Tuesday.

Police found nine bodies outside the town of Richmond, bringing to 21 the number of people killed in factional fighting involving up to 400 people Sunday.

The bodies of 12 others killed in the fighting at Richmond were discovered Monday in a mass grave, police said.

More than 1,000 people have

died in Natal since the start of the year in clashes between supporters of Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC) and the conservative Zulu-based Inkatha Movement.

Local human rights monitors say the fighting has entered a cycle of uncontrollable feuding, revenge attacks and banditry which often has little to do with politics.

Two blacks were burnt to death inside their home and four others were killed as violence broke out in black townships near Natal's main cities of Pietermaritzburg and Durban.

Colombia's president-elect promises sweeping change

BOGOTA (R) — Colombian President-Elect Cesar Gavira is set to push through sweeping constitutional reform which he believes is the only way to tackle the country's deepest crisis in recent history.

"We are going to give our institutions a historic shakeup ... institutions are no more than the necessary instruments for dealing with problems," he said in a victory speech.

Although a low turnout and lack of an absolute majority for Gavira in presidential elections Sunday deprived him of the unequivocal support he had sought for his tough anti-narcotics policy, Colombians made clear they are impatient for reform.

Ruling Liberal Party candidate Gavira, 43, who vowed to fight the country's feared cocaine barons to the finish, won 47.5 per cent of the vote. He picked up twice as many votes as his nearest rival, right-wing candidate Alvaro Gomez.

Colombians, in a referendum held along with the elections, voted overwhelmingly in favour of establishing a constituent assembly to reform the creaking constitution which dates back to 1886.

Gavira echoed these desires in his victory speech Sunday night: "This country must wake up and assume responsibility for changing these institutions ... to do otherwise would be to adopt an attitude of defeat in the face of rebellion and criminality."

Many politicians and academics believe root-and-branch reform of Colombia's outmoded institutions offers the only chance of making the country more democratic and receptive to change.

Evidence burned in Salvador Jesuits case

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Possessing key evidence in El Salvador's probe into the slaying of six Jesuit priests last November may have been destroyed, the court in charge of the case has said.

Logs recording movements in and out of San Salvador's military academy on the night of the murders were "suspected burnt" in the weeks following the crime.

The court said the academy's then deputy director, Major Carlos Camilo Hernandez, had ordered the destruction.

One of the defendants in the murder, Lieutenant Yussky Rene Mendoza, removed the books from the academy archive and, accompanied by four unidentified officer cadets, allegedly burned them between Dec. 1 and Dec. 16 last year, it added.

But President Alfredo Cristiani, speaking at a news conference shortly after the release of the court statement, said it was not clear whether the logbooks had been burned.

He said Hernandez apparently had ordered Mendoza to make the books "available" but that their subsequent fate had not been determined.

Cristiani said he hoped the court would call Hernandez and Mendoza to testify on the question.

The logbooks could provide key evidence on who was in the military academy on the night of the killings.

The academy is at the centre of the probe into the murder of the Jesuits, their housekeeper and her daughter during a major offensive by leftist rebels last Nov. 16.

Eight soldiers, including Academy Director Colonel Guillermo Benavides, were arrested in January in connection with the murders.

According to extrajudicial statements by the arrested soldiers, including Mendoza, Benavides ordered the murders during a meeting at the academy on the night of Nov. 15. Benavides has said he is innocent.

The court said last month the books had disappeared and Cristiani subsequently ordered an investigation into their whereabouts. The probe has been heavily criticised over the loss of the evidence and lack of progress since the arrests in January.

Proposed changes include restricting the president's far-reaching powers under a state of emergency, giving human rights guarantees, instituting congressional reforms and making voting obligatory.

Left-wing guerrilla groups are demanding constitutional reform as a precondition for peace talks with the government.

Gavira, who spent the day after his election victory playing tennis and relaxing, was quickly reminded of the challenges he faces from armed rebels and from drug traffickers waging a nine-month war on the state.

Guerrillas killed 11 people, including six policemen, and injured five in two ambushes on police vehicles after the polls closed Sunday evening. Rebels are also accused of having destroyed ballot boxes and harassed election officials.

Police in the cocaine headquarters of Medellin, focus of the drug war, said gunmen shot dead three people and wounded four in a northeastern suburb.

Judicial officials also said Guido Parra, a lawyer involved in mediation attempts between cocaine barons and the government, was freed at the weekend after being detained on May 10 on suspicion of aiding drug-related terrorism.

Gavira made clear in his speech that he intended to use the constituent assembly as a vehicle for changing institutions under attack from armed rebels.

In campaign speeches Gavira has also called for special courts to try drug traffickers and has indicated he believes the cocaine barons should be extradited to face trial in the United States only as a last resort.

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Yeltsin elected president of Russia

MOSCOW (AP) — Boris Yeltsin Tuesday was elected president of the Russian Federation, the largest Soviet republic. He won 535 votes, four more than the majority he needed.

The election gives Yeltsin, 59, a visible platform from which to wage his campaign for accelerating the reforms of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, who opposed his election.

The request concerning the security of the Soviet Union is in my view legitimate," Yeltsin said on the European-1 network. "It is the duty of the West to address this concern."

"If we do not find a proper solution within a reasonable period of time there is a threat of crisis or tension between East and West," he added.

Diplomatic sources said Yeltsin's statements could reflect growing concern for Gorbachev's position at home or French fears.

Bush said Saturday he hoped to persuade Gorbachev to go along with the idea of Germany joining NATO during this week's Washington summit.

Yeltsin told TASS the situation was "developing most unpredictably."

Accounts of the fighting varied. The Nationalists said Soviet soldiers fired on unarmed civilians. Soviet officials said Armenian militants attacked army patrols.

The Soviet evening television news programme "Vremya" Monday showed bullet-scarred walls at the railroad station and bodies on seats. It called the militants "terrorists."

A mass rally was held Monday by the Armenian National Movement to commemorate Armenia's 1918 declaration of independence, TASS reported, adding without elaboration that "an ominous shadow" was cast over the observation. Armenia was annexed by the Soviet Union in 1920.

In more than two years, several hundred people have been killed in violence in Armenia and neighbouring Azerbaijan. The republics have been locked in a bitter struggle for control of Nagorno-Karabakh, the Armenian enclave inside Azerbaijan.

Soviet soldiers have been deployed in both republics to quell the violence.

Armenians mourn victims in clashes

MOSCOW (AP) — Black ribbons hung from windows and cars, and somber music filled the airwaves Tuesday as Armenians mourned 24 people killed in clashes with Soviet troops.

No memorial marches were planned, said Berta Avetisyan, an editor of the official Armenian News Agency Armenpress.

In a telephone interview from Yerevan, the republic's capital, she said the streets were quiet and that they were adorned in the red, blue and orange flag of Armenia. Local radio interrupted regular programmes to broadcast only somber music, she said.

The burly Siberian stood to applaud from the floor of the Russian Congress of People's Deputies when the vote by the assembly was announced.

Yeltsin needed 531 of the 1,060

members to win.

His nearest rival, Russian Premier Alexander Vlasov, received 467 votes.

It was Yeltsin's third attempt to win the Russian presidency and came after he offered to create a coalition government with his conservative opponents.

He was elected by the Russian Congress, and not directly by the people.

The popular and outspoken

Communist had lost the second round of voting Saturday by just 28 votes and he lost the first round Friday with 497 ballots to 473 for Krasnodar regional Communist Party chief Ivan Polozkov.

Yeltsin told the congress Monday he would invite members of the Communist Party bloc and others to "work out a deal that would please the majority of Russian deputies."

After a day of nominations and speeches, Yeltsin, Vlasov and Valentin Tsay, a little-known businessman from the Soviet Far East, remained in the race. Vlasov had Gorbachev's support, and is seen as less hard-line than Polozkov — Yeltsin's opponent in previous rounds.

Yeltsin also called on the congress to reject the government's programme for a transition to a partial market economy, which was presented Thursday.

"The congress must take the citizens of Russia under its defence," he said, arguing that alternative programmes for the transition would not be as painful as the government proposal.

Yeltsin was quoted Tuesday as saying he believed he could reach agreement with Gorbachev.

"I believe I can still come to agreement with Gorbachev," the Fiumi afternoon paper Italehti quoted him as saying in an interview Saturday.

President Ghulam Ishaq Khan

strongly condemned the killing that he blamed in part on overzealous security forces. He urged Bhutto to explore all options to

restore law and order.

Bhutto called for emergency

meetings in Karachi, the nation's

largest city, with the embattled

provincial government and with

Gen. Mirza Aslam Beg, the army

chief of staff, who cut short a visit